

Origins of the Cold War

Entrance task:

1. Imagine you and a friend have an intense misunderstanding and dislike for each other but cannot say or do anything to change the other's mindset. What will you do, short of violence, to make sure your mindset is right?
2. From 1945-1991, the US and USSR engaged in a Cold War. Explain what is meant by the term Cold War?

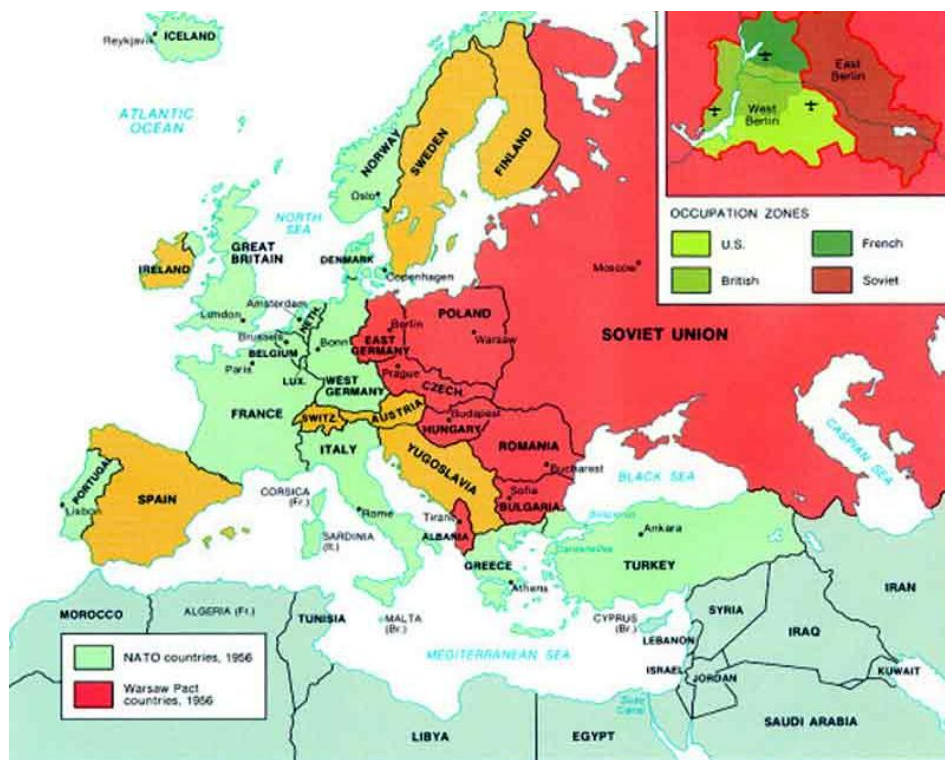


Origins of the Cold War

The Cold War

- Rivalry between US and USSR, spanning 1945 to 1991, involving ideas, territory, and nuclear weapons but not direct **confrontation**





Origins of the Cold War

Major areas of contention:

- Ideology
- Territory
- Nuclear proliferation





The Battle Over Ideas

American perspective:

- Communism is evil slavery and must be contained
- Since World War III with the USSR is undesirable, the US will take numerous steps to "contain" Communism
 - Any nation resisting the USSR will automatically become the US's ally



The Battle Over Ideas

Soviet perspective

- Capitalism and the US are evil and must be eliminated
- Communism must be spread throughout the world since workers everywhere are being exploited and deserve "Peace, Bread, and Land"



The Battle Over Territory

American perspective

- Yalta Conference (1945), Eastern Europe should hold free elections, which will elect non-Communists
 - - Beginning of the Cold War
 - US wants elections, Soviets say NO



The Battle Over Territory

Soviet perspective

- As the “winner” of World War II, the USSR has the right to control any territory it gained in the conflict, including Eastern Europe

Battle over Nuclear Proliferation



American perspective

- Nuclear weapons should never be used again, but the USSR should never be allowed to possess more nukes than the US

Battle over Nuclear Proliferation



Soviet perspective

- The USSR must develop nuclear weapons as quickly as possible to keep up with the US's advantage



Different perspectives, different goals



American goals

- Contain Communism
- Encourage capitalism, guarantee US access to raw materials
- Rebuilt Europe on American terms
- Reunite a powerful yet peaceful Germany to counter the USSR

Soviet goals

- Spread communism
- Use Eastern Europe's raw materials to build USSR power
- Encourage Communism and build an "Iron Curtain" to protect the USSR from the West
- Keep Germany divided and weakened

The Iron Curtain - 1946



CNN Interactive

<http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/cold.war/episodes/02/maps/1946.html>

Truman Doctrine [1947]

- Civil War in Greece.
- Turkey under pressure from the USSR for concessions in the Dardanelles.
- *The U. S. should support free peoples throughout the world who were resisting takeovers by armed minorities or outside pressures... We must assist free peoples to work out their own destinies in their own way.*
- The U.S. gave Greece & Turkey \$400 million in aid.

Marshall Plan Recipients



The European Recovery Program, as the Marshall Plan was formally known, offered U.S. aid to nearly all European countries. From 1948 to mid-1952, more than \$13 billion (\$88.2 billion in constant 1997 dollars) was distributed in the form of direct aid, loan guarantees, grants and necessities from medicine to mules.

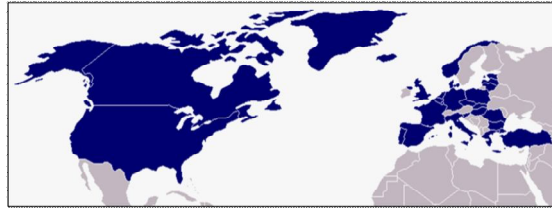
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Berlin Blockade & Airlift (1948-49)



North Atlantic Treaty Organization (1949)



- ❖ United States
- ❖ Belgium
- ❖ Britain
- ❖ Canada
- ❖ Denmark
- ❖ France
- ❖ Iceland
- ❖ Italy
- ❖ Luxembourg
- ❖ Netherlands
- ❖ Norway
- ❖ Portugal
- ❖ 1952: Greece & Turkey
- ❖ 1955: West Germany
- ❖ 1983: Spain

Warsaw Pact (1955)



- | | | |
|----------------|---|--------------|
| U. S. S. R. | } | East Germany |
| Albania | } | Hungary |
| Bulgaria | } | Poland |
| Czechoslovakia | } | Rumania |